COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Defense Steel Buyers Told to Shift Orders

Defense procurement officials have been directed by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara to shift steel orders to companies which have not increased prices.

In an announcement Jan. 3, the Secretary explained that wherever possible, procurement officials should "shift orders for future deliveries of items of steel on which prices have been raised."

At the same time, Secretary McNamara directed all defense procurement officials to take "all practicable steps to insure that defense contractors adopt the same procedures with respect to their purchases and those of their subcontractors."

On Jan. 5, after a compromise on steel prices had been reached between the government and the steel industry, the Department of Defense said its Jan. 3 order remains unchanged and it would continue to purchase steel at the lowest price.

The total steel production capacity is about 100 million short tons. The Defense Department and defense-associated programs, such as NASA and FAA combined, use about 2.2 million tons or 2.2 percent.

FY65 Most Active Yr. For ARC Since WWII

In one of its busiest and most active years since WWII, the American Red Cross "spent" more than $108 million during FY65 to provide humanitarian services to the American people and U.S. servicemen, women and their families at home and abroad.

Services to the nation's armed forces and veterans necessitated the largest single ARC expenditure, amounting to more than $39 million.

Red Cross staff workers and volunteers at 400 military installations in the U.S. and 30 foreign countries helped a monthly average of 77,000 servicemen and women, and nearly 87,000 service families. In military hospitals, an average of 8,300 patients each month was assisted with family emergencies. Also, ARC field directors accompanied military units to South Vietnam and many additional workers were sent to that Southeast Asia country.

***SENATOR'S FLIGHT PLAN**—Sen. Stuart Symington, D.-Mo., (right) discusses his flight plan with Maj. Gen. Gilbert L. Meyers, USAF, Deputy Commander, 2nd Air Division, while touring U.S. bases in Vietnam.*

MAC Study to Reduce DOD Airlift Expenses

Action following a study by the Military Airlift Command (MAC) will save an estimated $250,000 annually by cutting paperwork on certain commercial contract flights.

A change effective Jan. 1, 1966, was approved by the Comptroller General of the United States. It applies to paperwork required for payment to commercial airlines for flights in which MAC buys the entire plane-load of passenger seats or cargo space under a fixed-price contract.

An annual volume of 25,000 government bills and 14,000 transportation requests is eliminated by the change. The Government Accounting Office now recognizes MAC Form 8, "Civil Aircraft Certificate," as the only document required.

Payment authority, formerly resting with the U.S. Army Finance Center, Indianapolis, Ind., will be consolidated under MAC.

Gen. Westmoreland 'Man of Year'

General William C. Westmoreland, USA, Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, was selected by Time magazine as its "Man of the Year" for 1965.

Washington Memos

LAST YEAR WAS one of the biggest lifesaving years in Coast Guard's history. More than 15,000 persons were saved or rescued from peril. Property saved totaled nearly $1.9 billion, more than four times Coast Guard's appropriation for the year. Contributing to the high total were the Cuban small boat exodus, Hurricane Betsy and spring floods on the Mississippi.

A 4,000-MAN TASK force of the 25th Infantry Division has been moved from Hawaii to RVN. 3rd Brigade Task Force is first major force of "Tropic Lightning" Division to go to RVN, although "C" Company of Division's 65th Eng. Bn. has been there since August and some Division "Shotgunners" are still on duty there.

44TH TACTICAL FIGHTER Squadron, USAF, which gained fame in WWII in Pacific, recently celebrated 25th anniversary at Kadena AB, Okinawa. Highlight of celebration was appearance of several Japanese "Zero" pilots who served with Imperial Air Force in Pacific war.

"OPERATION SPRINGBOARD—66" commenced Dec. 23 marking start of three months of land, sea and air exercises for units of U.S. Atlantic Fleet. More than 10,000 U.S. and allied military personnel will converge on U.S. Naval Station, Roosevelt Roads, P.R., for annual winter training exercises.

ALL ARMY TACTICAL aircraft will be painted in camouflage scheme proved most effective in RVN, consisting of flat olive drab with identification markings and lettering in dull black. Color markings are limited to those required by safety and international law.

ARMY'S 1ST CAVALRY Division is using Airmobile Laboratory Test Center to analyze aircraft fuel samples in RVN. Test center determines whether or not helicopter fuel is contaminated, giving on-the-spot results within four hours.

AN INTENSIVE TREATMENT unit has been installed at Walter Reed General Hospital to care for shock cases that do not respond to normal treatment. The unit consists of a group of highly complex devices clustered around a special bed that provides a constant check on the patient's weight to the nearest gram. Quick diagnostic information comes from a small laboratory section and a large screen fluoroscope. Hospital officials said the unit would be used for refractory or hard to treat shock cases.

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. Humphrey concluded his holiday tour of the Far East Jan. 2 by paying a visit to front line troops of the 2nd Inf. Div. in Korea.

DELEGATES TO THE COMMONWEALTH Parliamentary Conference, New Zealand, were briefed on reasons for scientific studies in Antarctica by RAdm. F. E. Bakutis, Commander, U.S. Naval Support Force, Antarctica, Nov. 16, at Christchurch, N.Z. Conference was organized for discussions of common interests in historic background, Parliamentary government and rule of law.

CHICAGO AERIAL INDUSTRIES, Inc., Barrington, Ill., received Error Free Performance award from Westinghouse Electric Corp., Defense and Space Center, Baltimore, Md., for designing and producing airborne radar recording camera system; building in maximum reliability at minimum cost with deliveries ahead of schedule.

SAC'S 4252ND STRATEGIC WING awarded AF Outstanding Unit Award for accomplishments between Jan. 12 and June 30, 1965. Wing was cited for its contribution which ". . . added immeasurably to the USAF activities in the Far East . . ."

21 NEWLY DESIGNED Long Tank Thor space boosters were recently purchased by USAF from Douglas Missile & Space Systems Division, to meet more difficult launch requirements. Advanced version of Thor space booster to begin lifting payloads into space next summer.

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN assault commanders of Army's 1st Cavalry Division, Republic of Vietnam, and higher headquarters are maintained over long distances using five airborne relay teams. Electronic equipment of 13th Signal Battalion is packed in five aircraft, providing continuous relay service on several frequencies.

AMERICAN RED CROSS has announced plans for seven new clubmobile recreation units in RVN. Three roving facilities are now operating in Da Nang, Nha Trang and Bien Hoa areas.

FIRST UNIFIED COMMAND of armed forces of U.S., Alaskan Command, celebrated 19th anniversary Jan. 1. ALCOM was created in post-WWII period to provide effective strategic direction of armed forces in Alaska and for their operation under unified control. Current commander is Lt. Gen. Raymond J. Reeves, USAF.

WILLIAM MANNING ROUNTREE appointed U.S. Ambassador to Republic of South Africa succeeding retiring Joseph C. Satterwaithe.

TWO SOLDIERS WERE cited by radio-TV station WHAS, Louisville, Ky., for their services in Vietnam. SSgt. James A. Williams, Bloomingdale, Ind., and SFC. Bennie Collins, Williamstown, Ky., received the citation in ". . . gratitude of their fellow citiens from Kentucky and Indiana."

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Background For Commanders

U.S. Policy Toward Rhodesia*

There has been some feeling in this country that the Rhodesian rebellion is not of direct interest to the United States.

Nothing could be farther from the truth.

We naturally have a stake in what is happening in Rhodesia because of our traditional beliefs that government should be based on the consent of the governed and that all men are created equal.

In addition, we have an important self-interest in the consequences that may flow from the rash action of a white minority in Rhodesia. If the rebel regime in Rhodesia successfully maintains control of four million black Africans by 220,000 whites, a whole chain of critical consequences could be set in motion—all of which would affect the United States directly or indirectly.

Possible Consequences

This act of illegal rule by a selfish minority of 220,000 whites could jeopardize the rights, prestige and good relations built up and enjoyed by some 1½ million other whites of European origin (a term that includes Americans) who live in other areas of Africa.

Unchecked, the Rhodesian situation could well lead to the downfall of responsible, friendly African governments—whose leaders recognize the desirability of continuing black-white cooperation—and their replacement by radical elements.

The failure to halt illegal minority rule in Rhodesia could lead to our closest ally, Britain, losing its influence in Africa and to a waning of British power throughout the world.

The simple fact is that our entire posture in Africa rests squarely on the strong moral and material support we give African nations on issues of vital importance to them—and, obviously, the question of independence and majority rule in Rhodesia is such an issue.

And, finally, the situation in Rhodesia could trigger a bitter racial war in southern Africa—a struggle that could spread swiftly to other continents.

The tragedy of the current situation in Rhodesia is that it didn't have to happen. Under British rule, black Rhodesians had confidence that their political rights would flow normally, as such rights have done in other British colonies. The British proposed to bring majority rule—with safe guards for the rights of minorities—to Rhodesia in a reasonable time.

At best, the Rhodesian whites have bought only a few fleeting hours in which they can continue to deny black Africans their rights. They cannot long escape the inevitability of majority rule.

The measures the Rhodesian regime is taking to keep in power and control its people are totalitarian. Heavy press censorship has been put into effect. Public group listening to so-called "subversive" broadcasts—BBC and Voice of America, for example—is illegal. Parliamentary supporters of the regime have shouted down and suspended opposition. A state of emergency was proclaimed that permits police to arrest people without warrants. The principal African nationalist leaders—along with some 1,800 of their supporters—are under detention, mostly without trial. A former white prime minister is under house arrest for opposing the regime. The white legal adviser to one of the two principal African political parties has been put in prison. All of these actions are the trappings of a police state.

Britain's Responsibility

Britain, as the sovereign power in Rhodesia, has the primary responsibility for halting the rebellion in its colony. Britain has applied a broad range of sanctions—political, fiscal, economic—against Rhodesia to see if the situation can be rectified by such drastic expedients.

Speed is a critical factor in the situation. African nations already are impatient with Britain's measures. Many are pressing for direct military action. And a few would consider turning to the Communists for help, on the grounds that the West is not moving fast enough. Obviously, the Communists would be happy to rush this situation if they get a chance.

Whether British sanctions will have the opportunity of exerting their full impact on Rhodesia may depend upon the amount of cooperation received from South Africa, upon the predatory tendencies of modern-day private buccaneers looking for quick profit, and upon the amount of patience and restraint exhibited by African nations.

U.S. Support for Britain

Because of our own important interests in this matter, the United States fully backs the British Government. We believe Britain will continue to apply measures that will be adequate to resolve the situation, and we will support those measures.

The continued existence of the illegal Rhodesian regime is not solely a question of whether 220,000 whites can maintain racial supremacy over four million Africans. Rather, it is a situation that can have serious repercussions for the future of freedom in Africa, for other whites in Africa, for independent African governments, for Britain, for the United States, and for the whole world.

Clearly, the United States has only one course to follow—and that is to help halt the maintenance of an illegal regime in Rhodesia and to assist the British in their efforts to achieve an orderly transition to majority rule.

*Abridged from an address by G. Mennen Williams, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

Navy Approves Single Probe Fueling System

A new method of refueling at-sea, known as the single probe fueling system, has been approved for use by Navy. Developed by Bureau of Ships, it has the chief advantage of using fewer men to transfer more fuel in less time. Ship's delivery hose is automatically connected to the receiving ship reducing the amount of men needed to connect the hose manually. Personnel reduction also reduces hazards associated with this type operation.

Under the present system it takes some 13 minutes to hook-up then disconnect the hose; new system normally takes less than four minutes.

Regular AF Appointments For ATC Reserve Officers

U.S. Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Tex., has announced a central appointment board convening May 21 to consider Air Training Command Reserve of the Air Force line officers on active duty for Regular appointments.

Officers having at least four years but less than five years total active federal commissioned service are eligible.

APPROVAL LIST — PFC. Andrew Grabania (left) and Sp4 Darwin E. Gentile, USA 1st Logistical Command, RVN, read a 60-foot scroll from Kansas State Teachers College, containing signatures expressing approval of U.S. troop commitment in Vietnam.

1,600 Army Reserve Officers Sought for Active Duty Slots

Army is seeking reserve officials for voluntary active duty recall to fill some 1,600 spaces.

Company grade officers are needed in virtually every Army branch with openings for a limited number of majors. Army aviators are also sought in grades of captain, lieutenant and warrant officer. Further information is contained in Army Personnel Letters of January 1966.

Security Clearance Check Forms Reduced to Two

Army officials have acted to "refine the complexity" of requesting National Agency Checks (NAC) without sacrificing "quality of procedure for quantity produced."

Officials forsee current Army build-up increasing NAC requests. Commanders have been advised to request security clearances only when necessary, setting up controls for prompt and correct submissions with follow-up action.

New procedures are explained in pertinent regulation changes reducing the number of request forms to two —new DA Form 3027 and FD Form 258.

Airmen With BAs Sought For Educational Program

The Air Force has opened its Airmen Education and Commissioning Program for the first time to limited numbers already possessing a bachelor's degree.

Officials said 10 spaces in the FY66 program have been alloted for graduate-level study, preference going to applicants interested in science and engineering. Under the program, airmen are sent to civilian colleges or universities and then to officer training school.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Dr. Robert C. Seamans Jr., sworn in as Deputy Administrator, NASA, succeeding **Dr. Hugh L. Dryden** who died Dec. 2. **Mr. R. E. King** joined NASA Jan. 5 as Director of Labor Relations. **Mr. William E. Carter** retired after 47 years federal service in Army's Office of the Chief Signal Officer and Office of Communications-Electronics. **Brig. Gen. Willis F. Chapman, USAF (ret.)**, named Aerospace Programs Director, Europe, for LTV Aerospace Corp., with headquarters in Paris. **Brig. Gen. William R. Yancey, USAF**, assigned Vice Commander, Aeronautical Systems Division, AF Systems Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. **Brig. Gen. Charles W. Eifler, USA**, Deputy CG, Land Combat Systems, U.S. Army Missile Command, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., to be promoted to major general and reassigned to duty in RVN. **RAdm. William F. Petrovic** has replaced **RAdm. John H. McQuilkin** as Commander, U.S. Naval Shipyard, Brooklyn, N.Y.

CONTRACT AWARDS

Berry Construction Co., Decatur, Ill.: $1,090,480 fixed-price contract for work on Shelbyville Reservoir, Illinois, Project. **(Army)**

Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio: $4,537,239 fixed-price contract for truck and trailer tires. **(Army)**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.: $3,000,000 contract for tactical engineering support for Polaris guidance system. **(Navy)**

Master Manufacturing Co., Inc., Hutchinson, Kan.: $2,095,000 fixed-price contract for ordnance production line equipment. **(Navy)**

Textron, Inc., Belmont, Calif.: $1,486,361 fixed-price contract for procurement of cable test sets and adapter assemblies. **(Air Force)**

Sperry Rand Corp., Phoenix, Ariz.: $1,188,055 fixed-price order for procurement of an automatic flight control system. **(Air Force)**